

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 OIC-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07
INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 OMB-01
EPG-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12 SSM-03 DODE-00
PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 /134 W
-----071658Z 098920 /46

R 071409Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5874
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 9498

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLAB, ILO
SUBJECT: ILO - 63RD INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE

REF: (A) CAIRO 9364, (B) STATE 129464, (C) STATE 129463
(REPEATING GENEVA 4437)

1. EARLY THIS AFTERNOON MFA INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
DIRECTOR, AMR MUSA, TELEPHONED ON FAHMY'S INSTRUCTIONS.
RECALLING OUR DISCUSSION OF LAST SUNDAY EVENING ON ILO
DEVELOPMENTS, MUSA REFERRED TO WHAT WE ASSUME WAS JUNE 3
PLENARY DISCUSSION RE RECOMMENDATION OF SELECTIONS
COMMITTEE THAT GOVERNING BODY PROPOSAL TO AMEND
ARTICLE 17 BE ASSIGNED TO STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.
MUSA NOTED THIS HAD BEEN DECISIVELY DEFEATED THROUGH
ABSTENTIONS.

2. FAHMY WISHED TO POINT OUT TO US THAT ANALYSIS
OF VOTE, IN HIS VIEW, DISPROVES USG CONTENTION THAT
ARABS WERE SOLE OPPONENTS OF USG IDEA. ON THE CONTRARY,
ONLY FOUR AFRICAN STATES VOTED FOR THE PROPOSAL. ALL
OF THE OTHERS ABSTAINED. THIS, FAHMY ARGUED,
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DEMONSTRATES THAT IT WAS AN AFRICAN DECISION, NOT A
QUESTION OF THE ARAB/ISRAELI CONFLICT.

3. AS MUSA SAW IT, US AMENDMENT IS NOW IN "ABEYANCE
PROCEDURALLY." AGAIN, SPEAKING FOR FAHMY, MUSA
EXPRESSED REGRET AT WHAT HE CALLED US DEL'S TAKE IT OR
LEAVE IT APPROACH AND UNWILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE A

MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION. EGYPTIAN DEL UNDER INSTRUCTIONS BE MODERATE IF THERE IS SOME INDICATION OF US FLEXIBILITY, BUT NOT TO GIVE WAY ON MATTERS OF IMPORTANT POLITICAL PRINCIPLE.

4. WE AGAIN EMPHASIZED TO MUSA THAT OUR PRIMARY CONCERN IS THE COMPLETE DISREGARD OF ESTABLISHED ILO PROCEDURES, WHICH MUST INEVITABLY HURT THE ORGANIZATION. WE URGED THAT GOE TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT ITS POSITION TO AVOID AN OUTCOME THAT WILL REQUIRE THE US TO LEAVE THE ORGANIZATION. MUSA RECALLED FAHMY'S COMMENT THAT NO ONE WANTS TO FORCE USG OUT OF ILO, BUT THAT GOE DOES NOT ACCEPT USG'S VIEW THAT ILO IS PURELY TECHNICAL AND NON-POLITICAL ORGANIZATION. INTERNATIONAL LABOR IS HIGHLY POLITICAL; HENCE, ILO MUST ALSO BE SO. GOE, HE CONCLUDED, IS WAITING FOR SOME INDICATION OF US FLEXIBILITY.

5. MUSA WILL ACCOMPANY FAHMY TO MOSCOW TOMORROW. NEITHER WILL BE BACK UNTIL LATE JUNE 10 OR 11. THIS MEANS NO NEW DEMARCHE CAN BE MADE TO EITHER OF THEM UNTIL THAT TIME.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, WITHDRAWAL OF MEMBERSHIP, MEETING VOTING RECORDS, AMENDMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO09498
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770202-0970
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770684/aaaacvsm.tel
Line Count: 84
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bca7bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CAIRO 9364, 77 STATE 129464, 77 STATE 129463
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2253610
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ILO - 63RD INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE
TAGS: ELAB, PORG, EG, US, ILO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bca7bf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009